

TOPIC: Eagle Island Committee

DATE: May 3, 2006

ATTENDING:	Bob Meinen	Judy Peavey-Derr
	Rick Just	Tom Chelstrom
	Nancy Merrill	Margaret Henbest
	John Sandy	Tammy de Weerd
	Jim Hall	Matt Ellsworth
	Hal Bunderson	Jim Zamzow
	Elliot Werk	Bob Bruce
	Justin Hayes	Dr. Linda Clark
	Tom Dale	Elaine Clegg
	Lance Giles	Dave Ricks
	Connie Vaughn	

Policy Analyst Lance Giles welcomed the committee on behalf of Governor Kempthorne.

Comprehensive Planning Manager Rick Just gave the members some background on IDPR's park classification system and planning processes. Planner Connie Vaughn gave a presentation on the Eagle Island Master Plan 2000.

Rick asked for comments about the presentations, the charge of the committee or committee processes.

Rick said that we need to help define the vision - need a public input process. Nancy said there are some problems with public input because it's not always the same people that attend each meeting and people usually present different ideas at each meeting; what is better is to bring ideas to the people for comment with a couple of public meetings and then to the legislature.

Someone asked about researching what people want, and Rick said that it can be done in-house and that there is G.I.S. placement of every recreation area in the state. Another person mentioned that Boise and Meridian has already collected this type of information and it may be useful.

Director Bob Meinen talked about the fact that removal of gravel to build that park would be a very controversial issue. The Committee needs to meet before the consultant comes on board. Once we figure out what the park will look like, then whatever gravel might be surplus, IDPR will work with the State Department of Lands to market it. They will and can refill/backfill

Transportation issues also need to be considered – how we are going to get people in and out.

Nancy said that we can use parts of the Master Plan – the wetland and natural resources information. We need to get the survey out and have a meeting at Eagle Island with our plans in hand. What are the ponds going to look like and can we use the gravel for roads?

Bob encouraged everyone to look at parks and bring ideas back to the Committee. There is a need for a hydrologist or a person from Water Resources. Gravel is part of the process to creation of a Central Park type of park.

Water is critical for recreation. The Boise River is the dominating feature of this park.

It was suggested to do projections on population and obtain the number of school children, and to check with ITD for their plans of parking and think about other potential access by bike, boat, etc.

Nancy said that we also must remember the other important part of extending the pathways – we also need to look at this as we plan.

It was suggested that we use future transportation plans to work with park use, i.e. bus service.

There was talk about the creation of canal system for recreation uses, creating a safer alternative to the Boise River. A concern was noted about this suggestion because it would create a diversion and it would need to be researched.

It was suggested that staff research urban parks and bring back a list of their amenities. This information is available on topo maps.

We may be able to contact the Statesman to run a survey. Rick talked about doing an online survey with 3 conceptual plans. It was suggested to provide a

survey cards at the guard shack at Eagle Island. Nancy suggested that we hear from the kids in the community.

The meeting was ended with scheduling of the next meeting on May 24, 2006, 9-12 p.m. @ Eagle Island State Park pavilion, to tour the site – they will bring with them the Master plans, survey and someone to speak about the potential for gravel extraction.